

IN THE CLAIMS

*The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:*

1. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus capable of successively forming images on a first surface and a second surface of a transfer material and fixing the images, comprising:

an image carrier;

a light scanning device that forms a latent image on said image carrier by scanning a light beam based on image data and in accordance with an image clock;

a horizontal synchronization signal detecting device that detects from the light beam a horizontal synchronization signal for controlling a write start position of the latent image on the image carrier; and

a pulse adjusting device that sets a second number of pulses of the image clock corresponding to a distance from said horizontal synchronization signal detecting device to the write start position of the latent image during image formation on the second surface, to a number of pulses different from a first number of pulses of the image clock corresponding to a distance from said horizontal synchronization signal detecting device to the write start position of the latent image during image formation on the first surface, based on the first number of pulses of the image clock during image formation on the first surface, in accordance with an expansion/contraction ratio of the transfer material after fixing of the image on the first surface,

wherein said pulse adjusting device adjusts the second number of pulses of the image clock so as to be  $1/(1 + X/100)$  of the first number of pulses of the image clock, where X represents in percentage the expansion/contraction ratio of the transfer material after fixing the image on the first surface, and is positive when the transfer material expands and negative when the transfer material contracts.

2. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a control device that controls the write start position of the latent image on the second surface in accordance with the second number of pulses of the image clock during image formation on the second surface, set by said pulse adjusting device and a frequency of the image clock during image formation on the second surface.

3. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a clock frequency correcting device that sets a frequency of the image clock during image

formation on the first surface and the frequency of the image clock during image formation on the second surface,

wherein the frequency of the image clock during the image formation on the second face is set so as to be  $1/(1 + X/100)$  of the frequency of the image clock during the image formation on the first surface.

4. (*Original*) An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said clock frequency correcting device adjusts a size of the image formed on the second surface to a size of the image formed on the first surface after fixing by modulating the frequency of the image clock during image formation on the second surface.

5-8. (*Canceled*)

9. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus capable of successively forming images on a first surface and a second surface of a transfer material and fixing the images, comprising:

an image carrier;

a light scanning device that forms a latent image on said image carrier by scanning a light beam based on image data and in accordance with an image clock;

a horizontal synchronization signal detecting device that detects from the light beam a horizontal synchronization signal for controlling a write start position of the latent image on the image carrier;

a calculating device that calculates a frequency of a second image clock during image formation on the second surface that is different from a frequency of a first image clock during image formation on the first surface, and a number of pulses of the second image clock during image formation on the second surface, in accordance with the frequency of the first image clock during image formation on the first surface, a number of pulses of the first image clock corresponding to a distance from said horizontal synchronization signal detecting device to the write start position of the latent image on the first surface and an expansion/contraction ratio of the transfer material after fixing of the image on the first surface; and

a control device that controls the write start position of the latent image on the second surface in accordance with a result of calculation by said calculating device,

wherein said calculating device calculates the number of pulses of the second image clock so as to be  $1/(1 + X/100)$  of the number of pulses of the first image clock, where X

represents in percentage the expansion/contraction ratio of the transfer material after fixing the image on the first surface, and is positive when the transfer material expands and negative when the transfer material contracts.

10. (*Currently Amended*) An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a clock frequency correcting device that adjusts a size of the image formed on the second surface to a size of the image formed on the first surface after fixing by modulating the frequency of the image clock during image formation on the second surface so as to be  $1/(1 + X/100)$  of the frequency of the image clock during image formation on the first surface.

11-22. (*Canceled*)